Missionaries' Manual.

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MISSIONARIES' MANUAL,

ISSUED BY THE

BOARD OF MANAGERS

OF THE

Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

THE Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church is the Church itself in a corporate form, for the purpose of establishing and supporting Christian missions in our own and in foreign lands. The Charter granted by the State of New York empowers the General Conference to appoint the Board of Managers, to elect the Corresponding Secretaries and Treasurers, and to adopt a Constitution of said Society and amend the same at its pleasure. All this the General Confer-

ence has done. In the Constitution adopted provision is made for a General Missionary Committee to consist of one person from each General Conference District and an equal number from the Board, together with the Bishops, and the Secretaries and Treasurers of the Society. This committee has sole authority to determine what fields shall be occupied as Foreign Missions, the number of persons to be employed therein, and the amount to be expended. The Bishops appoint all missionaries, except in the case of laymen, in which case the appointment is made by the Board or by its authority. The missions are either "Annual Conferences" or "Annual Meetings," such "Annual Conferences" having the powers usual to such bodies, and the "Annual Meetings" having the powers of District Conferences; the Superintendent in the latter case having general supervisory functions, and also those of a presiding elder, over a part or all of the mission as may be designated through the proper officers. The administration of the fiscal affairs of the mission is controlled by the General Committee and the Board of Managers; and to the latter are also committed the general management and disposition of the affairs and property of the Society, and the Corresponding Secretaries are accordingly required

to "keep a vigilant eye upon all the affairs of the Society, and especially upon all its missions, and promptly convey to the Bishops having charge of the missions respectively, to the Board, or the standing committees," all requisite information.

The General Conference has ordained that the administration of the Missionary Society shall in no wise be disturbed by the organization of a mission into an Annual Conference, but shall be in full force as before such organization. Some missions in our own land are directed by the General Committee to be administered as Foreign Missions; but all other Domestic Missions are made such by Annual Conferences, by appropriating to each from the funds of the Missionary Society a sum supposed to be sufficient for its support when added to the amount to be raised in the mission itself.

The Church has assumed the support of its missions, and committed this to the pastors and congregations, as such, and even prescribed a plan for raising the needed funds. In every part, the Church is doing its own missionary work, and no item is committed to an organization apart from itself, and all concerned will find the functions of the Church in all lands performed by the proper officers.

THE SOCIETY'S WORK.

The principal object of the Missionary Society is to supply the living preacher to those who, either for the want of men or money, must otherwise be without the Gospel. Every man thus sent to a mission field is a missionary. The work of education, of church erection, of publication, of tract and Bible distribution, of relief for orphans, sick ones, etc., in our own country, is all provided for by other organizations. In foreign lands the educational, church extension, and much of the humanitarian work is devolved upon the Missionary Society. The Sunday-School Union, the Tract Society, the Bible Societies, all make frequent and liberal grants to our foreign mission work. All applications for such grants-in-aid should be presented to those several societies through the Corresponding Secretaries of the Missionary Society.

EMERGENCIES.

In the intervals of the meetings of the General Committee there is no money from the missionary treasury within the reach of any mission, either at home or abroad, except that the Constitution empowers the Board to expend, not exceeding $25,000 beyond the appropriations of the General Committee to pro-

vide for UNEXPECTED EMERGENCIES that may arise in our missions. This sum is usually put by the General Committee in its list of appropriations. An application for a grant from this fund should fail, first, if it be not made for a mission; second, if no emergency has arisen, or if that emergency was not wholly unexpected at the time the appropriation was made. Very great emergencies must be expected occasionally to arise in our Foreign Missions, when there is no opportunity to consult the authorities at home. Fire, flood, war, mobs, pestilence, and the like may occasion them. But these cases are so exceptional that no directions are necessary in respect to them. *A wise missionary, treasurer, or superintendent will never assume responsibilities that could not be fully justified to the Board;* and even then such responsibilities should not be assumed by an individual unsustained by his associates, nor even then unless his own judgment can fully vindicate them; and in all cases they would be *inexcusable* if the Corresponding Secretaries of the Missionary Society can possibly be reached in time. The mail and telegraph have now brought our missions so near to head-quarters as to make the absence of law in such cases not very embarrassing.

MISSIONARIES.

The divine Spirit, doubtless, draws many devout hearts to the missionary work, and this persuasive influence should not be disregarded. The perishing condition of millions of our race demands that every true child of God should do his utmost to supply them with the saving Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. To this work some of us must give ourselves, time, talents, and life itself. No one should think of becoming a missionary except under the inspiration of a holy purpose to do his utmost to save and elevate those to whom he goes. Let the candidate examine himself and see if the end in view is travel, observation, experience, scholarship, professional eminence as a physician, teacher, linguist, author, or any such work. If so, he needs a higher and holier baptism before he should aspire to be Christ's embassador to a dying nation. In other words, the love of Christ and the love of souls should inspire the offer for missionary work.

It should be the purpose of the candidate to give his life to the land to which he goes. The cases are rare, indeed, where the Church will consent to send those who design to give but a short period to the work. If, in the providence of God, this godly pur-

pose cannot be carried out, if failure of health or other circumstances create a necessity for relinquishing the work, the consent of the proper authorities of the Church will not be refused.

One whose heart is drawn toward mission work, and who proposes to enter it, should place in the hands of the Corresponding Secretaries, to guide the appointing power, all prerequisite information, such as, to his age and place of nativity; his height, weight, and personal appearance; his health, particularly as to biliousness, and the eyes; his acuteness to detect delicate distinctions of sound; his voice, disposition, social bearing, and manners; his domestic relations, and, if married or engaged, the lady's personal character and attainments, her health, manners, piety, etc. He should also state when he was converted, received into the Church, licensed to preach, ordained; also what are his education, habits of study, general character and style of preaching, his degree of indebtedness, his personal experience in the Christian life, and his mind and heart in regard to missionary work. He should also furnish the names of his pastor, presiding elder, teachers, and intimate friends, to whom we may write concerning him. These communications, when they respect a traveling preacher, are for

the Bishop in charge, who may be addressed through the Corresponding Secretaries.

Having been commissioned, the appointee will be under the direction of the Corresponding Secretaries as to all the details of his outgoing, all the expenses of which are usually borne by the Society, being paid on the presentation of itemized bills, and, therefore, a careful account should be kept. These expenses include boxing, cartage, freight, necessary travel, and whatever else belongs strictly to the journey, but do not include clothing, books, etc., to be used after entering the field. The latter should be paid from the salary. The Mission Rooms, 805 Broadway, New York city, may be freely used for deposit of goods *in transitu*, and there, if necessary, they may be repacked and redirected. All boxes should have upon them the name of the owner.

All preparations for departing must be considered as in charge of the outgoing missionary. He should leave himself time for all needed purposes, for all his trading, for rendering his accounts to the Secretary and balancing them up to the time of departure. He should be sure to get a passport, the blanks for which are always kept at the Mission Rooms. As it must be obtained from Washington, several days will be

necessary. The missionary has always in the Mission Rooms a friend whose aid he may invoke for any business he may need transacted in this country, or any purchases he may desire made. The Secretaries gladly attend to all these things for their brothers and sisters abroad. In all cases let the directions be definite.

No outfit is allowed such as was necessary in the beginning of the missionary enterprise. If special help or relief is needed, it must be sought in special action of the Board. The Treasurer is authorized to pay, within reasonable distances, for farewell visits to parents and brothers and sisters. The missionary must proceed by direct route from his home to the appointed field. If permission is granted for delays or detours from the direct route, the expenses of such delay or detour must be borne by the missionary.

On reaching the field he will report, as directed by the Corresponding Secretaries, and as soon as possible will be furnished a residence, supplied with heavy furniture, the property of the Missionary Society. He will at once report to the Corresponding Secretaries his expenses of outgoing in an *itemized bill*, duplicated to the treasurer of the mission and approved by him. Any balance shown to be in his hands due the Society shall be paid to said treasurer of the mission.

If he has traveled on letter of credit, the same should be at once canceled and returned to the Mission Rooms, whether it be exhausted or not.

From the time of entering the field, until he leaves it, he will be paid quarterly, and, as nearly as may be, in advance, a salary to be fixed from time to time by the Board. He will be constantly subject to appointment by the proper authorities of the Church, and no contracts or agreements with the missionary must be supposed to exist on the part of Bishops, Board, or mission, notwithstanding his outgoing may have been because of some supposed special adaptation to some particular department of the work.

The salary will be sufficient, with wise economy, for the comfortable support of the missionary; not sufficient to compensate for financial defects in the missionary's character, nor so small that the more prudent may not have something to spare. Special needs will, therefore, occasionally require special relief. *Compensation* is not in our thought. God will recompense.

Article XII of the Constitution reads as follows: "The Board may provide for the support of superannuated missionaries, widows and orphans of missionaries, who may not be provided for by their Annual Conferences respectively, it being understood that they

shall not receive more than is usually allowed to other superannuated ministers, their widows and orphans."

Fully installed as a missionary, he is now to give his undivided energies to the work, with much prayer, much consideration for his associates, much diligent study of the language of the people, and of the word of God. Unsullied purity of life and thought specially becomes the missionary.

At appropriate times, and for sufficient reasons, consent will be given to the return of a missionary and his family to this country, at the cost of the Society. Such returns are mutually beneficial to the missionaries and to the home churches, and are often necessary for rest, recuperation, and medical treatment, and are always invigorating to the faith and religious life of the men and women who have dwelt for years amid heathenism. No periods have been fixed for such returns. Too frequent returns, or returns for insufficient reasons, are harmful in the extreme. Those desiring to return should address the Bishop in charge of the mission, with medical certificate, if it be for reasons of health, and with full statements of the case, and accompanying opinions of his fellow-missionaries. When the Bishop shall have considered the case, he will communicate

his judgment, with the papers, to the Corresponding Secretaries, that the Board may decide whether or not they will provide the money for this return; and if the Bishop and Board concur in the propriety of the return, the Corresponding Secretaries will give due notice and directions; and so likewise they will inform the missionary if consent of Bishop and Board has not been granted. *It must be a very extreme case in which any missionary's return, without the above-required consent, will be approved or the expense thereof met by the Society.* After he has entered upon his leave from the mission and for a period of one year, but not longer unless specially authorized by the Board, the treasurer will pay the salary fixed by the Board for returned missionaries. If, for any reason, a missionary has left the field *not to return* to it, and is in good health, he must cease to be a charge to the Missionary Society at the earliest moment he can be employed. For this end he should report his expected return at the earliest possible moment to the Church officers, whose duty it may be to open a door for his employment in this country. If finally separated from the mission by the providence of God, his name will be cherished as that of a former laborer in the great missionary field.

All letters to the Mission Rooms should be addressed to "The Corresponding Secretaries," and not to either of them by name.

It is not desirable that any improper restrictions should be laid upon the correspondence of missionaries; but to relieve from labor at the Mission Rooms, and to avoid complications, it is desirable that one person in each mission should be designated to express the mind of the mission to the Corresponding Secretaries, and he should be required to present his letters and the responses thereto for examination at the Annual Meeting of the mission. Every missionary is at liberty to correspond with the home authorities about his personal affairs. Nothing should be written to the Rooms, to one another, or to friends in the United States, that would not be agreeable to the writer, should it confront him before those to whom he may be responsible. Any suggestions that a missionary has to make, as to changing missionary policies or administration, are due first to the Board and Bishop in charge. The Bishops and Secretaries responding in public prints to such suggestions of missionaries would be unseemly, but not more so than for the missionary to go to the public with them. When petitions to the proper authorities have failed, and the

missionary wishes, in consequence, to take issue with the missionary authorities, then alone it may be right to resort to the public press.

Articles transmitted through the Secretaries to the press would have the advantage of their kindly criticism, and the missionary can do much with his pen to fan the flame of missionary zeal in his native land, and he is exhorted freely to use his pen for this purpose.

Every mission should make provision for the careful preparation of statistics and other matter for the annual Report of the Society, and on this line, one of the most important duties of every missionary is to see that the necessary report and statistics of his charge are prepared and forwarded at the proper time to the person or persons directed to prepare it for the Mission Rooms. These persons should see that this matter, in good form, reaches New York, if possible, by December 1st, or at latest by the opening of the new year.

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS.

In each mission a treasurer of the mission will be appointed by the Board of Managers of the Missionary Society, whose officer he shall be, and whose interests he shall guard. The mission may indicate its pref-

erence, but his appointment or removal is wholly at the pleasure of the Board.

The treasurer of each mission shall receive such remittances as may be sent to him by the Corresponding Secretaries, and disburse the same as directed by them, *and in no other way*, receiving for each payment a voucher, which shall be regularly marked and numbered on the back and filed. If the payments are made through a presiding elder or other person, he shall require each voucher to be returned to him to be dealt with as above.

The exchange of the Society must not be sold until the mission is in actual need of the cash, and no drafts may be made upon letters of credit beyond immediate necessity.

Unless otherwise directed by the Board, the treasurer shall keep all deeds to mission property and all other papers representing pecuniary value, and shall receive and credit to the Missionary Society all issues and incomes of its properties in the mission, and report the same to the Corresponding Secretaries, and shall exercise a general supervision over its real estate, and report the condition of the same to the Society from time to time as he may think requisite, or as requested by the Corresponding Secretaries.

In books kept for that purpose, and for no other, and which shall be the property of the Missionary Society, he shall keep a full and detailed account of all receipts and disbursements on account of the mission, referring to each voucher by its number, and particularly designate by number of exchange each remittance and the amount received for it in the currency of the country; and transmit at the close of each quarter a full account to the Mission Rooms at New York. He shall also keep in the same books such other accounts as may be necessary to a perfect understanding of the financial affairs of the mission; and shall preserve all letters received, and copies of all letters sent, upon the business of the mission. All the above shall be delivered by the treasurer to his successor in office.

When any of our missionaries in foreign lands desire to make payments in the United States for the support of their families, or for friends here, the money may be paid to the treasurer of the mission, whereupon he shall issue a certificate of deposit of the prescribed form to the order of the person making the deposit, which, if properly indorsed, will be duly honored on presentation to the Treasurer of the Society at New York. This transaction shall be immediately entered

by the mission treasurer in his account of receipts. Notice of each certificate of deposit should be sent, by the first mail after the issue thereof, to the Mission Rooms, on blanks prepared for that purpose, showing date, number, and amount. And at least once in each quarter a full statement of all such issues for the quarter shall be sent to the Treasurer of the Society at New York, through the Corresponding Secretaries.

In case any of our missionaries desire to make purchases in the United States, a bill for the same, accompanied by an order from the missionary for its payment, may be presented to the Corresponding Secretaries for audit, and upon their certificate may be paid by the Treasurer of the Society, and the same reported as so much cash remitted to the treasurer of the mission, whose duty it shall be to deduct the amount from the next payment to the missionary. The bill and order attached shall be the proper voucher in such cases of the Treasurer of the Society. If a duplicate order is necessary, the missionary must supply it; and if a duplicate bill is desired, the missionary must require it of the dealer. *The order should never be part of a letter, nor on the same sheet.*

The Corresponding Secretaries will send to each

mission with each remittance, or oftener, a list of all payments of bills on account of missionaries in the field—the aggregate of which shall at once be credited to the Society as so much remittance. If any of the items are excepted to, notice shall be given to the Secretary that he may explain the charge.

If a bank account is kept by the treasurer of the mission, it should never be a personal account, nor in any way mingled with his personal affairs, but should be in the name of "——— ———, Treasurer of ——— Mission of the Methodist Episcopal Church, or his Successor in office," and be recognized by the bank as the property of the Missionary Society, to fall at once, and without any process of law, into the hands of the succeeding treasurer of the mission whenever, by death or otherwise, the present incumbent shall cease to hold the office.

The treasurer of each mission shall render, each quarter, full and satisfactory financial statements before he shall be entitled to receive the next remittance, and at the end of each year he shall present a balance sheet for the year, corresponding to the quarterly statements. He shall in no case, either directly or by assuming obligations for the future, allow to be expended for the year more

than was authorized by the General Committee and Board. He may not exercise in the name of the Society any other authority than is hereby conferred.

Real estate accounts should be kept apart from those for the current expenses of the mission. Each piece of property should have a distinct account, and the condition of each should be reported to the Corresponding Secretaries every quarter; and at the end of the year, and especially when the transaction is completed, a full balance sheet should be furnished the Secretaries.

No missionary or other person, other than the Corresponding Secretaries, is allowed to make drafts on the Treasurer for Foreign Missions, except on letters of credit duly issued. The Bishops are the persons authorized to draw for Domestic Missions.

Real estate may be purchased for the Society and improvement made on real estate, by the erection of buildings or otherwise, only by direct order of the Board, and by persons specially authorized to make such purchase or improvement. Titles should always be taken, if it be lawful so to do, in the name of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, incorporated by the State of New York, U. S. A.

Where this is unlawful, the Board must determine how titles should be held.

When the purchase and its record are completed, the treasurer should at once forward a copy of the title deeds, with translations of the same, to the Mission Rooms.

Appropriations and balances of appropriations unexpended at the close of the fiscal year, of any mission, whether in the hands of the Treasurer of the Society or any of its agents, shall lapse to the Treasury of the Society, and may not be thereafter used for the purposes for which they were appropriated, except to discharge authorized pre-existing obligations.

Every mission should provide for an audit annually, or oftener, of all accounts within the mission, not only of expenditures from the missionary treasury, but of all other moneys. The auditing committee should certify this audit upon the books, and the accounts of the treasurer of the mission forwarded to the Mission Rooms should have a like certificate.

Where a finance committee exists in a mission by authority of the Board, it shall possess such powers as are expressly conferred upon it from time to time, and no others. It must not be supposed to represent the Board, General Committee, or Missionary

Society. Its advice and opinion will always be influential.

ESTIMATES.

It is the duty of each mission to provide, in its own way, unless otherwise directed by the Board, for the preparation of estimates to be made for each and every object for which appropriations are needful, and for any desired extension of the work. These estimates should be prepared in three columns, the first of which should give the amount that can be possibly raised or paid for that object by those for whose good it is intended ; the second, the amount asked in addition to this from the Missionary Society. These two columns should be in the currency of the country. The third column should be an estimate of the amount of United States currency necessary to purchase the sum asked of the General Committee. New work should be distinctly specified as such. Letters should accompany the estimates, explaining with great particularity and care the reasons why the respective appropriations asked should be granted.

It is always better that a congregation should do all it can for the support of its pastor, and for the erection and maintenance of its church property ; also, that, as far as possible, tuition in schools be paid for

by those who attend them; and that papers, tracts, and Bibles should not be wholly gratuitous; and, therefore, all missionaries are expected to give constant attention to the matter of self-support in the mission, however small the amount that may at first be raised. The smallest amount that will be needed should be asked of the General Committee, and the largest possible portion left to be raised in the field.

These estimates should embrace the salaries of all persons connected with the mission, whether in the field or out of it; and also, all expected outgoing and return expenses, and for all desired re-enforcements. Also, for all exchange, internal or otherwise, that may be required during the year. The General Committee is not accustomed to leave any sums contingent or unappropriated, and each mission is at liberty to apply to the contingent fund of the Board to meet only unexpected emergencies.

The estimates thus prepared should be in the hands of the Corresponding Secretaries at least one month before the annual meeting of the General Committee, that they may be deliberately considered by the appropriate committee, which, by the request of the General Committee, in the case of Foreign Missions, is usually the committee of the Board having

charge of such missions respectively. The treasurer of the mission shall in all cases retain a copy of the estimates and the accompanying letters sent forward. The appropriations will always be in the currency of the country for which they are made, and the probable value of the same in United States currency, commonly superadded, is simply an estimate by which the mission treasurer is in no wise to be guided.

AUTHORIZED FORM OF TREASURER'S CERTIFICATE.

No. ..... , 18....

I hereby certify *that* ..... *has deposited with me, as Treasurer of the* ..... *Mission of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the sum of* ..... *Dollars, to be repaid to him or his order at the Treasury of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church,* 805 *Broadway, New York, U. S. A., three days after the sight of this certificate.*

..... , *Treasurer of*

$ .....

The Treasurer of the Mission is instructed that Certificates of Deposit must be issued upon the ACTUAL deposit of the SUM specified on the face of the Certificate, and never upon a constructive deposit or a promise to deposit.

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

ARTICLE I.

NAME AND OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY.

THE name of this association shall be "THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH." Its objects are charitable and religious; designed to diffuse more generally the blessings of education and Christianity, and to promote and support missionary schools and Christian missions throughout the United States and the continent of America, and also in foreign countries.

ARTICLE II.

MEMBERS, HONORARY MANAGERS, AND PATRONS.

The payment of twenty dollars at one time shall constitute a member for life. Any person paying one hundred and fifty dollars at one time into the treasury shall be an honorary manager for life; and the contribution of five hundred dollars shall constitute the donor an honorary patron for life; both of whom shall be entitled to a seat and the right of speaking, but not of voting, in the Board of Managers. Such members, honorary managers, and patrons shall be members of the Society, and entitled to vote at all meetings of the Society, and to elect its officers and managers.

ARTICLE III.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

The management and disposition of the affairs and property of this Society shall be vested in a Board of Managers, members of the Society, consisting of thirty-two laymen, all being members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and so many clerical members, not exceeding that number, as shall be determined at each annual election, each of whom shall be a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The Board shall also have authority to make by-laws, not inconsistent with this constitution, or the charter; to print books for Indian and Foreign Missions, and missions in which a foreign language is used; to fill vacancies that may occur during the year among the officers elective by the Society, or in its own body; and shall present a statement of its transactions and funds to the Society at its annual meeting, and also shall lay before the General Conference a report of its transactions for the four preceding years, and the state of its funds.

ARTICLE IV.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARIES.

The Corresponding Secretary shall be appointed by the General Conference. He shall reside in New York, and conduct the correspondence of the Society under the direction of the Board. He shall be subject to the direction and control of the Board of Managers, by whom his salary is to be fixed and paid. He shall be exclusively employed in conducting the correspondence of the Society, and, under the direction of the Board, in promoting its general interests by traveling or otherwise.

There shall also be two Assistant Corresponding Secretaries, who shall be elected by the General Conference, the first of whom shall reside in the city of New York, and the second of whom shall reside in the West, at such place as the Board of Managers shall direct, and they shall labor to promote the interests of the Missionary cause under the direction of the Board of Managers at New York.

Should the office of a Secretary become vacant by death, resignation, or otherwise, the Board shall have power to provide for the duties of the office until the Bishops, or a majority of them, shall fill the vacancy.

ARTICLE V.

ELECTION OF MANAGERS.

The annual meeting for the election of officers and managers shall be held on the third Monday in November, in the city of New York, and the term of the service of the officers and managers so elected shall commence January first following.

ARTICLE VI.

PRESIDING OFFICER.

At all meetings of the Society, and of the Board, the President, or, in his absence, one of the Vice-Presidents, and in the absence of the President and of all the Vice-Presidents, a member appointed by the meeting for that purpose, shall preside.

ARTICLE VII.

QUORUM.

Twenty-five members at each meeting of the Society, and thirteen at each meeting of the Board of Managers, shall be a quorum.

ARTICLE VIII.

MINUTES.

The minutes of each meeting shall be signed by the chairman of the meeting at which the minutes are read and approved.

ARTICLE IX.

AUXILIARY SOCIETIES.

It is recommended that within the bounds of each annual conference there be established a Conference Missionary Society, auxiliary to this institution, under such regulations as the conferences shall respectively prescribe.

ARTICLE X.

SPECIAL DONATIONS.

Any auxiliary society or donor may designate the mission or missions, under the care of this Society, to which they desire any part or the whole of its funds to be appropriated; which special designation shall be publicly acknowledged by the Board. But in the event that more funds are raised for any particular mission than are necessary for its support, the surplus shall be at the disposal of the Society for its general purposes.

ARTICLE XI.

GENERAL MISSIONARY COMMITTEE.

The Annual Conferences shall be divided into as many mission districts as there are effective superintendents, and there shall be one member from each mission district to be appointed by the bishops, and a like number of members to be appointed annually by the Board of Managers, who, with the Corresponding Secretaries and Treasurer of the Society, shall constitute a committee, to be called the *General Missionary Committee.*

The General Missionary Committee shall meet annually in the city of New York in the month of November, as shall be determined by the Corresponding Secretaries and Treasurer.

Said General Missionary Committee, with the concurrence of the Board of Managers, and with the concurrence of a majority of the Bishops present at the meeting, shall determine what fields shall be occupied as foreign missions, the number of persons to be employed on said missions, and the amount necessary for the support of each mission. Said General Missionary Committee, with the concurrence of the Board and Bishops, as aforesaid, shall also determine the amount for which each Bishop may draw for the domestic missions of the conferences over which he shall preside, and the Bishop shall not draw on the Treasurer for more than said amount. *Nevertheless*, in the intervals between the meetings of the General Missionary Committee, the Board of Managers, with the concurrence of the Bishop who has charge, or is to have charge of the work proposed, may, if they shall deem it important, adopt a new foreign mission field, and also provide for any unforeseen emergency that may arise in any of our missions; and, to meet such demands, may expend any additional amount not exceeding twenty-five thousand dollars.

Should any of the members of the General Missionary Committee appointed by the bishops go out of office by death, resignation, or otherwise, the Bishops shall appoint another to fill the vacancy.

The General Missionary Committee shall be amenable to the General Conference, to whom it shall make full report of its doings.

Any expenses incurred in the discharge of its duties shall be met by the Treasurer of the Society.

ARTICLE XII.

SUPPORT OF SUPERANNUATED MISSIONARIES.

The Board may provide for the support of superannuated missionaries, widows and orphans of missionaries, who may not be provided for by their annual conferences respectively, it being understood that they shall not receive more than is allowed by the Discipline to other superannuated ministers, their widows and orphans.

The amount allowed for the support of a missionary shall not exceed the usual allowance of other itinerant preachers; and in the case of domestic missions, the Bishop or president of the conference shall draw for the same in quarterly installments, and shall always promptly notify the Treasurer of all drafts made by him. The administration of appropriations to foreign missions shall be under the direction of the Board of Managers.

No one shall be acknowledged as a missionary, or receive support as such from the funds of this Society, who has not some definite field assigned to him in the service of the Society, or who could not be an effective laborer on a circuit, except as above provided.

ARTICLE XIII.

REPORTS FROM MISSIONS.

Each missionary shall report to his superintendent once a quarter, in writing, the state and prospects of the special work in which he is engaged.

Each superintendent of missions, and where there is no superintendent, each missionary, shall make a regular quarterly report to the Corresponding Secretary at New York, giving information of the state and prospects of the several missions under his care.

ARTICLE XIV.

AMENDMENTS.

This constitution shall not be altered except by the concurrence both of the General Conference and of the Board of Managers.